

MONTEZUMA WETLANDS RESTORATION

SOLANO COUNTY CALIFORNIA

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS:

1st District, Rep. Mike Thompson
3rd District, Rep. Doug Ose
6th District, Rep. Lynn Woolsey
7th District, Rep. George Miller
8th District, Rep. Nancy Pelosi
9th District, Rep. Barbara Lee
10th District, Rep. Ellen Tauscher

11th District, Rep. Richard Pombo
12th District, Rep. Richard Pombo
12th District, Rep. Tom Lantos
13th District, Rep. Pete Stark
14th District, Rep. Anna Eshoo
15th District, Rep. Mike Honda
16th District, Rep. Zoe Lofgren

<u>STUDY DESCRIPTION</u>: The Montezuma Restoration site is located in Solano County, California. The project will restore 1,720 acres of tidal wetlands, and create 109 acres of managed wetlands, establishing a tidal marsh habitat essential to the survival of two endangered species and used by a wide variety of other fish and wildlife species.

This project will also advance the beneficial use of dredged material from San Francisco Bay as part of the Long Term Management Strategy (LTMS). The project will further the goals of the LTMS to minimize in-bay disposal and maximize the beneficial reuse of dredged material. The San Francisco Bay Region, California, has in excess of 5.4 billion dollars of annual economic activity that is directly dependent on deep and shallow draft na vigation channels. The annual maintenance of the navigation channels requires the removal of approximately 5 million cubic yards of dredged material. Pending new channel improvements will result in the removal of another 16 million cubic yards in the immediate future. The LTMS was officially implemented in 1990 because historical in-Bay dredged material disposal sites were filling up, there was no designated ocean disposal site, and dredged material disposal at almost any location was becoming an issue of substantial controversy. The Strategy was created as a partnership between Federal and State agencies, navigation interests, fishermen, environmental organizations, and the general public. Primary objectives are to identify and make available acceptable disposal alternatives and to address the various regional concerns regarding dredging and disposal. The LTMS objectives are being met through developing beneficial reuse sites for environmental restoration.

FISCAL YEAR 03 BUDGET: \$0

<u>POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS:</u> Restoration of a tidal salt marsh by the beneficial reuse of approximately 17 million cubic yards of maintenance dredged material from six Federal channels in the San Francisco Bay area. A commercial dredged sediment offloading and rehandling facility

would also be constructed to benefit handling of saline dredge material for fresh water aquatic disposal in the Delta.

<u>PRESENT STATUS</u>: A Section 204 1996 Water Resource Development Act (WRDA) Ecosystem Restoration Initial Appraisal has been proposed. Further study cannot proceed without an identified local sponsor.